IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A mixture of two particulate phases to be used in the production of a green compact ~~that can be sintered~~ for sintering at higher temperatures, wherein

A) a first phase contains particles that consist of a metal compound, comprising hydrides of at least one metal that forms a sintered alloy;

B) a second phase contains particles selected from a group of inorganic compounds, which at temperatures beyond 400°C, do not release any decomposition products that are interstitially soluble in the sintering metal phase and/or react with said phase to form stable compounds; and

C) that the inorganic compounds are selected from a group consisting of alkali halogenides and alkaline earth halogenides.

2. (Currently Amended) The mixture as claimed in claim 1, wherein the metal compound is a [[titan]] titanium compound.

3. (Previously Presented) The mixture as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first phase of the mixture additionally comprises particles that consist of a metal.

4. (Previously Presented) The mixture as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first phase of the mixture additionally comprises particles that consist of a metal alloy.

5. (Currently Amended) The mixture as claimed in claim 1, wherein the inorganic compounds are selected from the ~~following~~ group consisting of: NaCl, CaF_2, K_3AlF_6 and Na_3AlF_6.

6. (Currently Amended) The mixture as claimed in claim 1, wherein the bodies of the first and/or the second phase are agglomerates or shaped corpuscles of powder particles that are kept in place by ~~means of~~ a binder that disintegrates and/or evaporates at temperatures below ~~the~~ a beginning of ~~the~~ a sintering process.

7. (Previously Presented) The mixture as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first phase comprises oxides of at least one of the metals that form the sintered alloy.

8. (Previously Presented) The mixture as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first phase comprises nitrides of at least one of the metals that form the sintered alloy.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Previously Presented) The mixture as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first phase comprises particles consisting of titanium hydride.

11. (Currently Amended) The mixture as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least part of the particles of the first phase are provided with a metal coating which in contact with the other components of the first phase form, at least at the beginning of [[the]] a sintering process, a low melting point alloy and that after termination of the sintering

process the concentration of this metal in the alloy corresponds to the desired value.

12. (Currently Amended) The mixture as claimed in claim 1, wherein, in addition to the first and second phases, the mixture further comprises a third phase, sid third phase comprising ~~in the form of~~ an organic or inorganic binder in a composition corresponding to that used in powder injection molding.

13. (Currently Amended) A method for producing a shaped body that can be sintered at higher temperatures as claimed in claim 1, ~~wherein the first and second phases composing the mixture are homogeneously mixed and that subsequently said mixture is inserted~~ comprising the steps of mixing the first and second phases together to form a homogeneous mixture and inserting said mixture into a mold which, at [[the]] a sintering temperature, is thermally and chemically stable.

14. (Currently Amended) A shaped body ~~capable of being sintered,~~ which is obtained by the method according to claim 13.

15. (Currently Amended) A method for producing shaped metal bodies with interconnecting pore structures by using the shaped body ~~capable of being sintered~~ as claimed in claim 14, comprising ~~the step of:~~ a sintering process of heating of the green compact until the particles of the first phase are sintered so as to form an interconnecting pore structure, and eliminating the particles of the second phase ~~being eliminated~~ from the pores of the shaped body during or subsequent to the sintering process.

16. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 15, wherein the elimination of the particles of the second phase takes place prior to or during the sintering process at a temperature beyond 400°C.

17. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 16, wherein the elimination of the particles of the second phase takes place subsequent to the sintering process by dissolving out said particles using a solvent.

18. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 17, wherein after having undergone the sintering process, the shaped body is treated with a liquid and/or a vaporous alkali metal or alkaline earth metal.

19. (Previously Presented) A shaped metal body obtained in accordance with the method of claim 18.

20. (Currently Amended) The shaped metal body as claimed in claim 19, wherein the pores of the interconnecting pore structure have a diameter ~~inferior to~~ smaller than 0.4 mm.

21. (Currently Amended) ~~A utilization of the~~ The shaped metal body as claimed in claim 19, wherein the shaped metal body is ~~as~~ one of a surgical implant [[or as]] and a coating for a surgical implant.

22. (Currently Amended) ~~A utilization of the~~ The shaped metal body as claimed in claim 19, wherein the shaped metal body is ~~as~~ a structural member for applications in lightweight construction.

23. (Currently Amended) ~~A utilization of the~~ The shaped metal body as claimed in claim 19, wherein the shaped metal body is ~~as~~ an electrode material.